

SUMMARY:

THE PROJECT:

It is assumed that for the calculable future a primary source of information or intelligence on China will be derived from the perusal of current newspapers and periodicals published within that country. The effective use of these sources of information will require skill and competence in reading current Chinese texts. The daily and weekly newspapers in Communist China present special difficulties to an American trained in the Chinese language because of the emerging new terminology which they contain and the new topics, primarily in the social sciences, with which they deal.

It has been ascertained that the material now used in universities where the Chinese language is taught comprise the usual literary

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texts suited to the attainment of reading competence in the literary field. Because of the nature of the Chinese language, which requires the learning of individual symbols for different concepts, students of Chinese who have learned to read on the basis of the training texts now available are not able to handle the literary characters of the current newspaper style.

Procedure:

It is proposed to contract with the [REDACTED] 25X1A5a1
[REDACTED] to have them undertake the 25X1A5a1
research and composition involved in the production of two series of training text in Chinese at the Introductory and Intermediate levels. The specific objective of these training texts--competent reading skill at the newspaper and periodical level, with a focus on the social sciences--would be stipulated. The method of presentation, the approximate total number of characters to be covered, the various fields to be studied, all would be defined in the contract.

The intermediate reading drills would be prepared to include material containing area data. The texts could be utilized as basis for development of skill in the spoken language.

This material would become available to the Agency as it is produced and it is expected that the project would be completed in about 30 months.

The contract could stipulate that the manuscripts would be published with the financial support of the University to the extent of \$4,000, ~~provided the Agency does not desire to keep the materials thus prepared classified.~~

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Some of the divisions concerned with Chinese matters have been consulted regarding the usefulness to them of this project and the results of these consultations are as follows:

Budgeting:

The budget for the language program contains \$_____ for the preparation of material for language training. The present project comes under this item and the cost could be imputed to \$_____.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Office of Training be authorized to conclude negotiations to carry out this project.

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